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Woog

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(54) **OZONE GENERATOR WITH A DISPOSABLE EMITTER CARTRIDGE**

(56) **References Cited**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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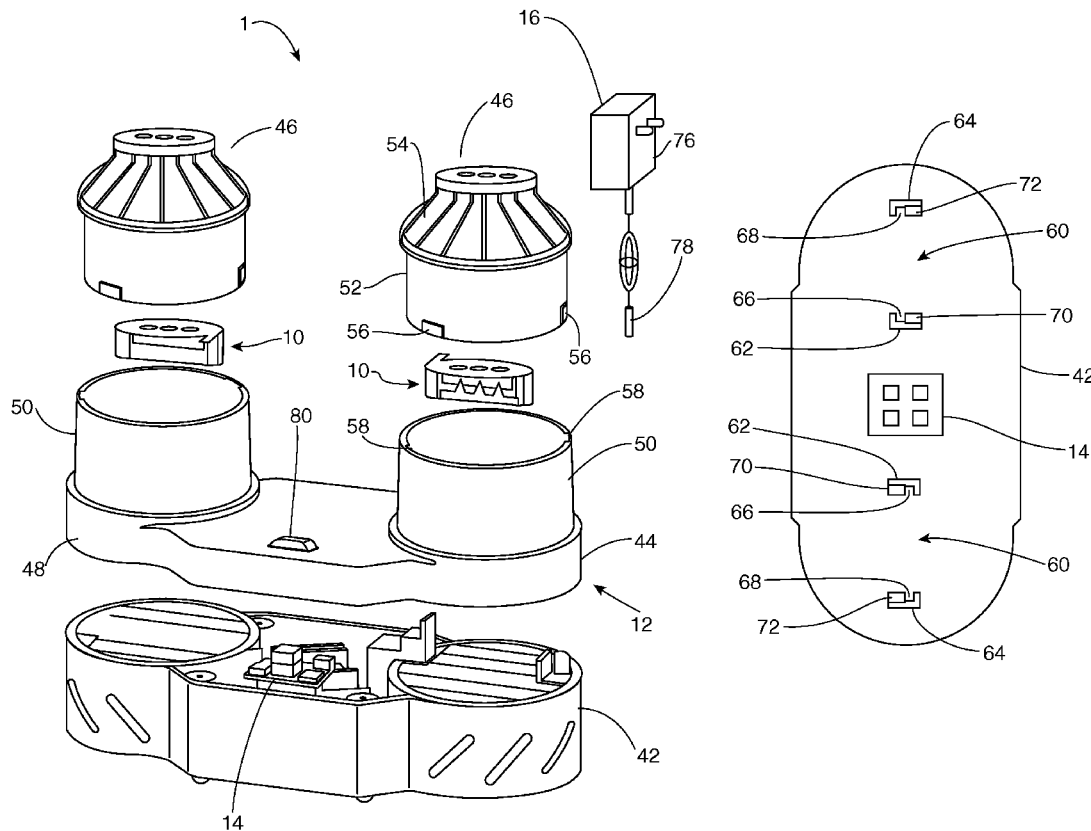
(51) **Int. Cl.**
B01J 19/08 (2006.01)
C01B 13/11 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **C01B 13/115** (2013.01); **C01B 2201/22** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC C01B 13/115; C01B 2201/22; A61L 9/22
See application file for complete search history.

An ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge preferably includes two emitter cartridges, a protective housing, a high voltage generation circuit and a power supply. The disposable emitter cartridge preferably includes an anode element, a cathode element and an insulating spacer. The anode element includes a plurality of emitter projections. The cathode element includes a base plate with a plurality of openings. The anode element is attached to one side of the insulating spacer and the cathode element is attached to an opposing side. The protective housing preferably includes a base portion, an emitter housing and a pair of vent caps. The two emitter cartridges are removably retained on the base portion. The power supply supplies electrical power to the high voltage circuit. The high voltage circuit supplies high voltage to the two emitter cartridges. Electrical current arcs from the plurality emitter projections to the plurality of openings.

20 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



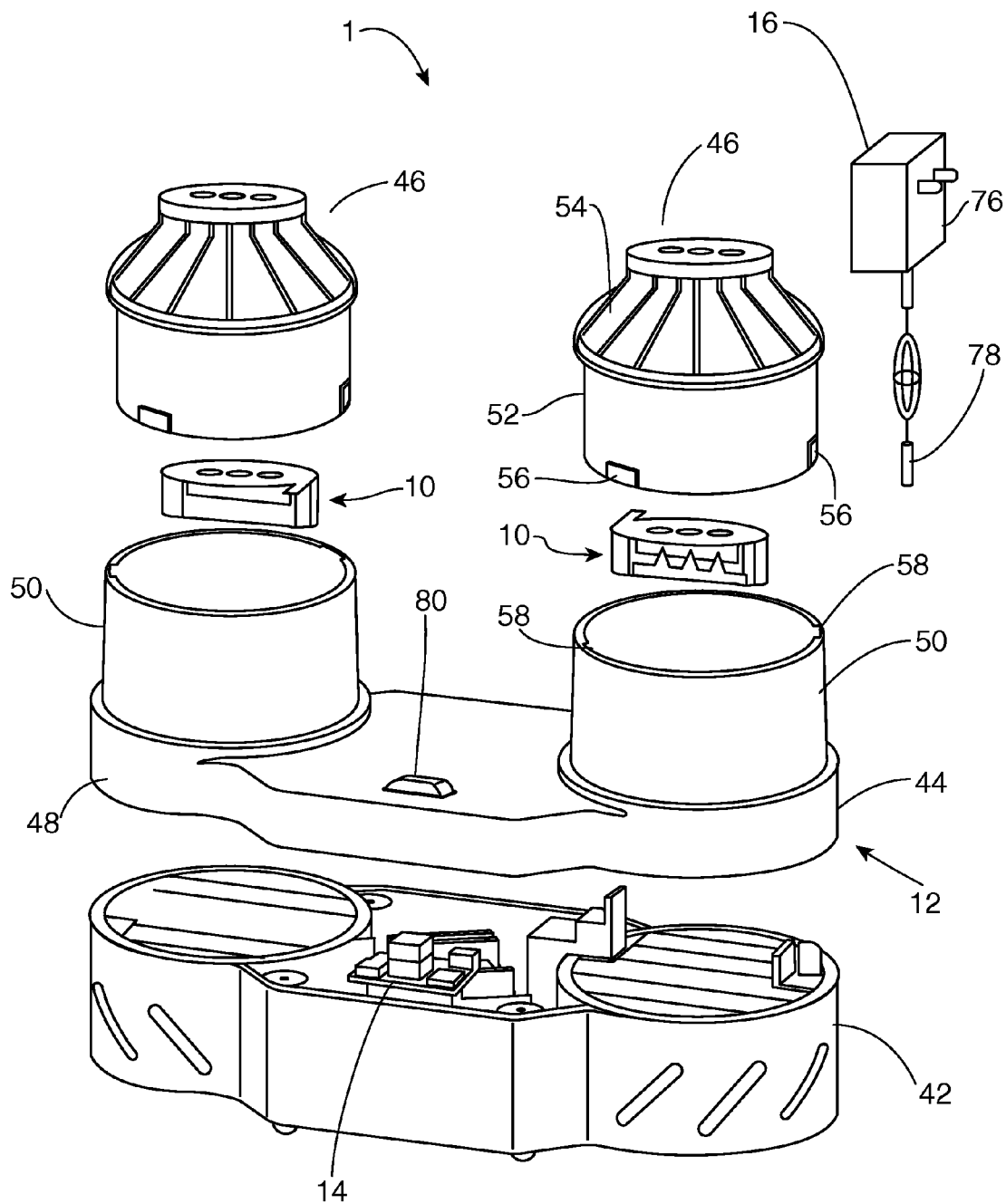


FIG. 1

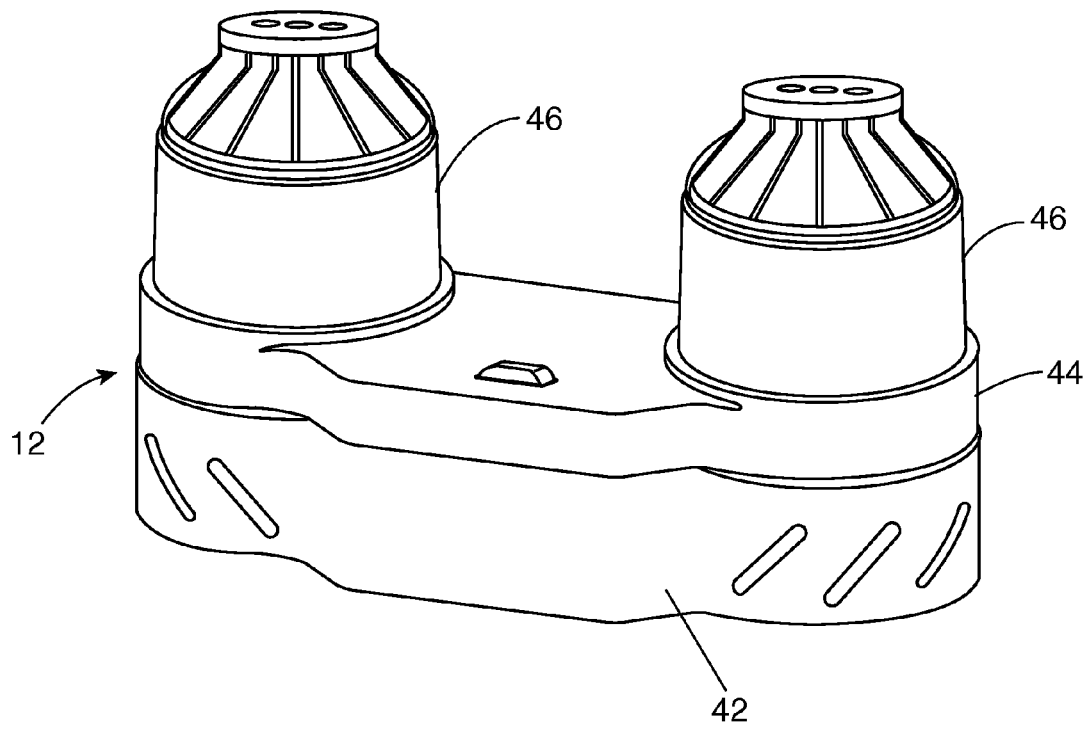


FIG. 2

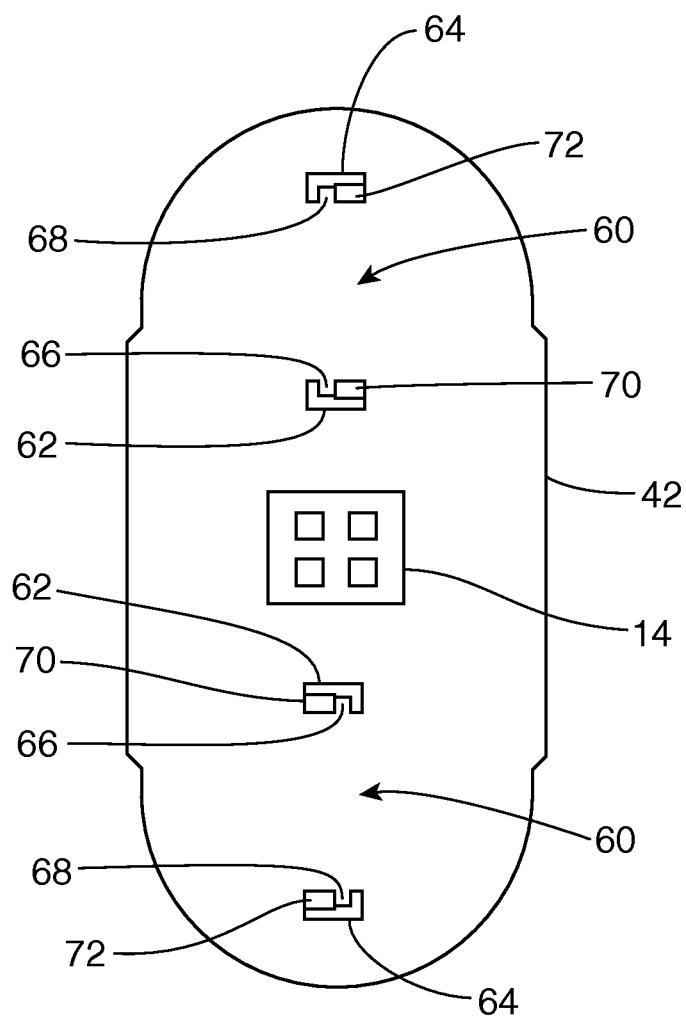


FIG. 3

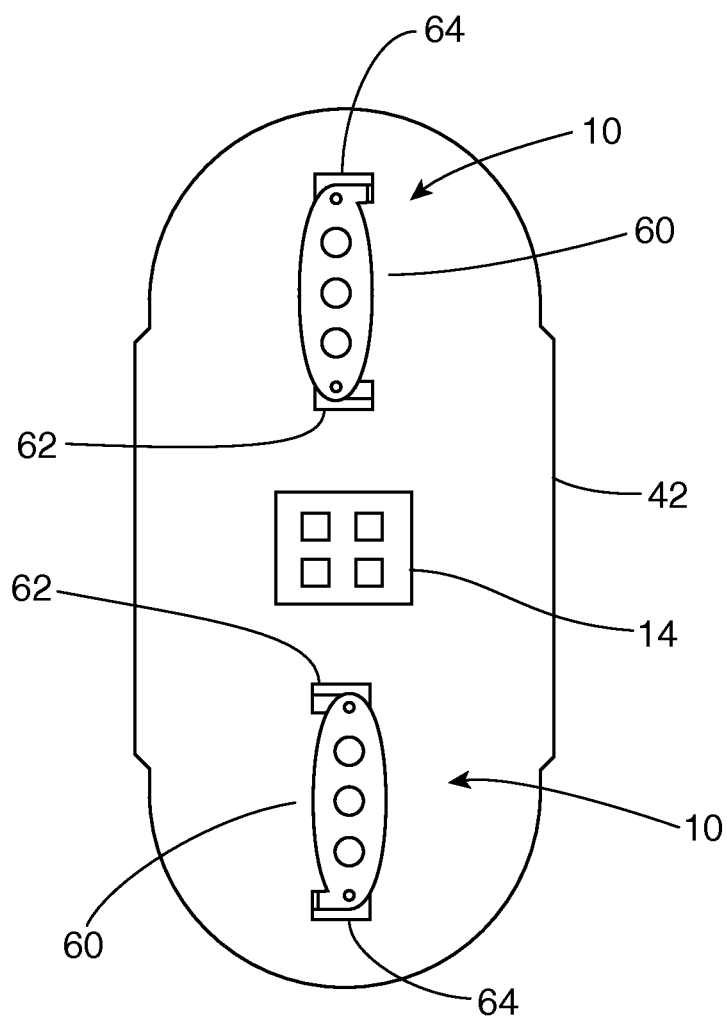


FIG. 4

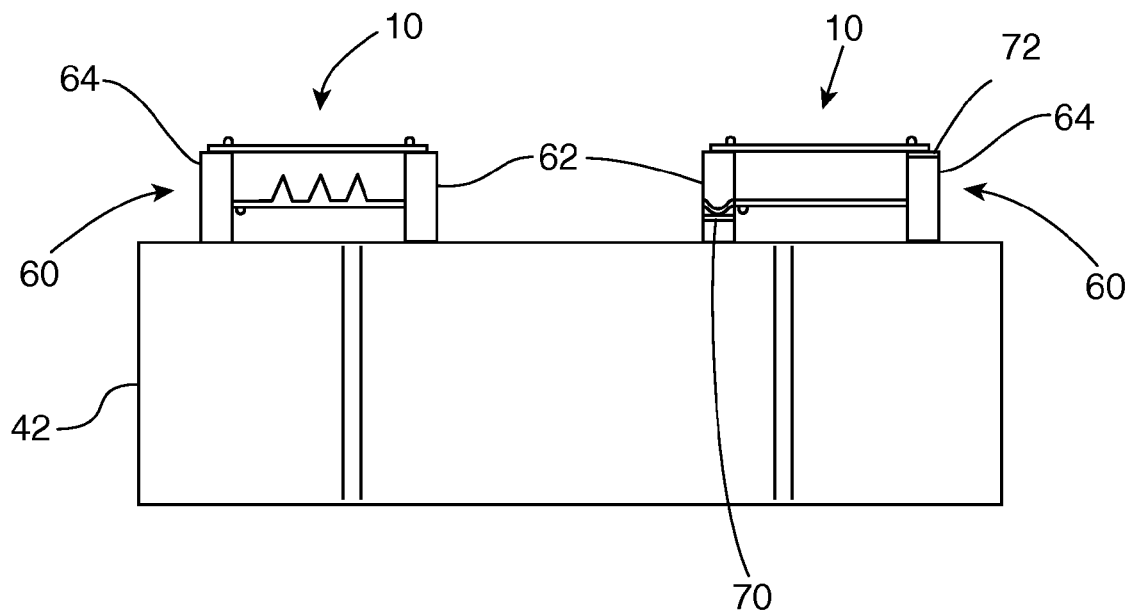


FIG. 5

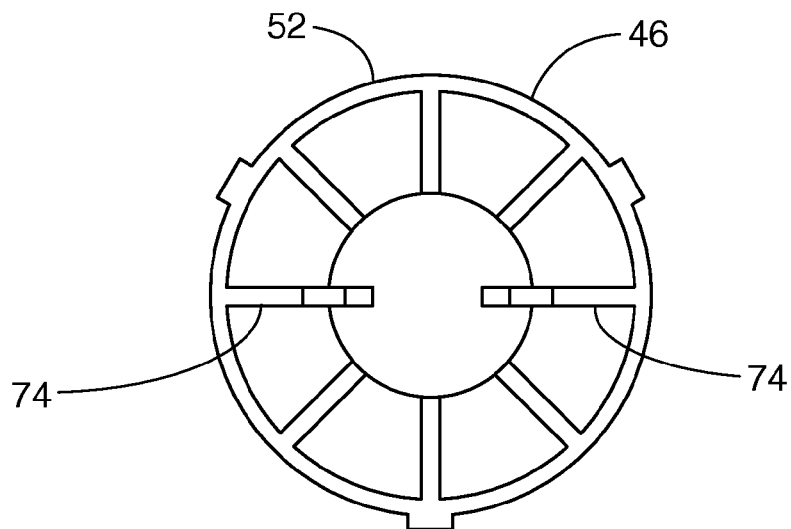


FIG. 8

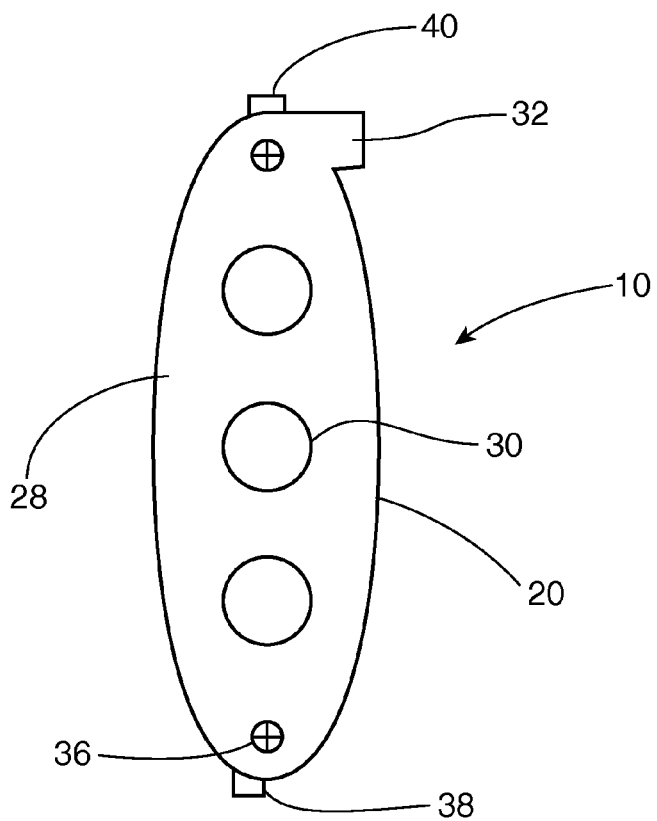


FIG. 6

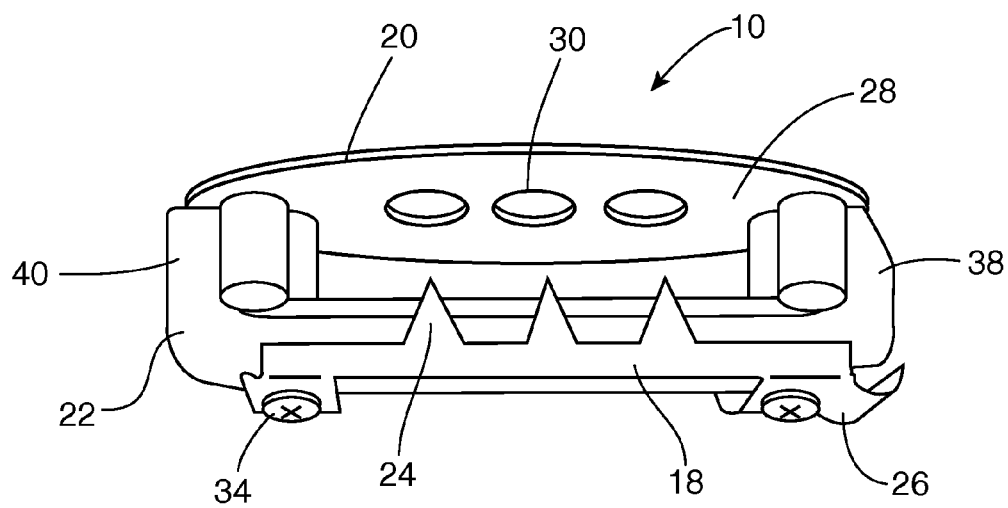


FIG. 7

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OZONE GENERATOR WITH A DISPOSABLE EMITTER CARTRIDGE

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a non-provisional patent application, which claims the benefit of provisional application No. 62/061,961 filed on Jun. 25, 2014. Provisional application No. 62/061,961 is hereby incorporated by reference into this application in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to air purifiers and more specifically to an ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge, which does not require the replacement of an entire ozone generator.

2. Discussion of the Prior Art

Ozone generator emitter cartridges fail, because high voltage transmission eventually corrodes emitter projections. However, it appears that the prior art does not teach or suggest an ozone generator with a replaceable emitter cartridge.

Accordingly, there is a clearly felt need in the art for an ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge, which does not require the replacement of an entire ozone generator when the emitter cartridge fails.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides an ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge, which does not require the replacement of an entire ozone generator. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge (ozone generator) preferably includes at least one emitter cartridge, a protective housing, a high voltage generation circuit and a power supply. The disposable emitter cartridge preferably includes an anode element, a cathode element and an insulating spacer. The anode element includes a plurality of emitter projections and a contact clip. The contact clip extends from an end of the anode element. The cathode element includes a base plate with a plurality of arc openings formed therethrough. A contact tab extends from the base plate. The anode element is attached to one side of the insulating spacer and the cathode element is attached to an opposing side of the insulating spacer. The insulating spacer includes a first retention projection extending from a first end thereof and a second retention projection extending from a second end thereof.

The protective housing preferably includes a base portion, an emitter housing and at least one vent cap. The high voltage circuit is preferably retained on the base portion. The emitter housing includes an emitter base and at least one emitter tube. The at least one emitter tube extends upward from the emitter base. The vent cap includes a tubular body and a vented tower, which extends from a top of the tubular body. At least two tabs are formed on a bottom and outer perimeter of the tubular body. At least two twist slots are formed in an inner perimeter of the emitter tube to receive the at least two twist slots.

At least one emitter retainer extends upward from a top of the base portion and concentric with the emitter tube. Each emitter retainer includes a first emitter post and a second emitter post. The first emitter post includes a first inward facing slot and the second emitter post includes a second inward facing slot. The first and second inward facing slots are sized to receive the first and second retention projections of the insulating spacer. An anode electrical contact is

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retained adjacent the first inward facing slot. A cathode electrical contact is retained adjacent the second inward facing slot.

The emitter cartridge is preferably installed in the following manner. The first and second retention projections of the emitter cartridge are pushed into the first and second inward facing slots. A pair of opposed retention walls preferably extend inward from an inner perimeter of the tubular body. The anode contact clip makes electrical contact with the anode electrical contact and the cathode contact tab makes contact with the cathode electrical contact. The pair of opposed retention walls force the anode contact clip and cathode contact tab against the anode and cathode electrical contacts, when the vent caps are twisted into the emitter tubes. The high voltage generation circuit is connected to the anode and cathode electrical contacts. The power supply supplies the high voltage generation circuit with electrical power.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide an ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge, which does not require the replacement of an entire ozone generator when the emitter cartridge fails.

These and additional objects, advantages, features and benefits of the present invention will become apparent from the following specification.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an exploded perspective view of an ozone generator in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of an ozone generator in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a top view of a base portion of a protective housing of an ozone generator in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 4 is a top view of a base portion of a protective housing with two emitter cartridges retained therein of an ozone generator in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 5 is a side view of a base portion of a protective housing with two emitter cartridges retained therein of an ozone generator in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 6 is a top view of an emitter cartridge of an ozone generator in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 7 is a perspective view of an emitter cartridge of an ozone generator in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 8 is a bottom view of a vent cap of an ozone generator illustrating a pair of opposed retention walls in accordance with the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

With reference now to the drawings, and particularly to FIG. 1, there is shown an exploded perspective view of an ozone generator 1. With reference to FIG. 2, the ozone generator 1 preferably includes two emitter cartridges 10, a protective housing 12, a high voltage generation circuit 14 and a power supply 16. With reference to FIGS. 6-7, the disposable emitter cartridge 10 preferably includes an anode element 18, a cathode element 20 and an insulating spacer 22. The anode element 18 includes a plurality of emitter projections 24 and an anode contact clip 26. The anode contact clip 26 extends from an end of the anode element 18. The cathode element 20 includes a base plate 28 with a plurality of arc openings 30 formed therethrough. A cathode contact tab 32 extends from the base plate 28. The anode element 18 is attached to one side of the insulating spacer 22 with two fasteners 34 and the cathode element 20 is attached to an opposing side of the

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insulating spacer with two fasteners **36**. The insulating spacer **22** includes a first retention projection **38** extending from a first end thereof and a second retention projection **40** extending from a second end thereof.

The protective housing **12** preferably includes a base portion **42**, an emitter housing **44** and a pair of vent caps **46**. The high voltage circuit **14** is preferably retained on the base portion **42**. The emitter housing **44** includes an emitter base **48** and a pair of emitter tubes **50**. The pair of emitter tubes **50** extend upward from each end of the emitter base **48**. Each vent cap **46** includes a tubular body **52** and a vented tower **54**, which extends from a top of the tubular body **52**. At least two tabs **56** are formed on a bottom and outer perimeter of the tubular body **52**. At least two twist slots **58** are formed in an inner perimeter of each emitter tube **50** to receive the at least two tabs **56**.

With reference to FIGS. 3-5, a pair of emitter retainers **60** extend upward from a top of the base portion **42** and concentric with each emitter tube **50**. Each emitter retainer **60** includes a first emitter post **62** and a second emitter post **64**. The first emitter post **62** includes a first inward facing slot **66** and the second emitter post **64** includes a second inward facing slot **68**. The first and second inward facing slots **66**, **68** are sized to receive the first and second retention projections **38**, **40** of the insulating spacer **22**. An anode electrical contact **70** is retained adjacent the first inward facing slot **66**. A cathode electrical contact **72** is retained adjacent the second inward facing slot **68**. The emitter cartridge **10** is preferably installed in the following manner. The first and second retention projections **38**, **40** of the emitter cartridge **10** are pushed into the first and second inward facing slots **66**, **68**. A pair of opposed retention walls **74** preferably extend inward from an inner perimeter of the tubular body **52**. The anode contact clip **26** makes electrical contact with the anode electrical contact **70** and the cathode contact tab **32** makes contact with the cathode electrical contact **72**. The pair of opposed retention walls **74** force the anode contact clip **26** and cathode contact tab **32** against the anode and cathode electrical contacts **70**, **72**, when the vent caps **46** are twisted into the emitter tubes **50**. The high voltage generation circuit **14** is connected to the anode and cathode electrical contacts **70**, **72**. The power supply **16** includes electrical prongs **76** and a DC plug **78**. The electrical prongs **76** are plugged into an AC outlet and the DC plug **78** is inserted into a female input supply of the high voltage circuit **14**. An on-off switch **80** is then toggled to supply electrical power to the pair of emitter cartridges **10**. During operation, electrical current flows from said plurality of emitter projections **24** to said plurality of arc openings **30**.

While particular embodiments of the invention have been shown and described, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that changes and modifications may be made without departing from the invention in its broader aspects, and therefore, the aim in the appended claims is to cover all such changes and modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. An ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge comprising:

at least one emitter cartridge includes an anode element, a cathode element and an insulating spacer, said anode element includes a plurality of emitter projections;
a base portion includes at least one emitter retainer, one of said at least one emitter cartridge is removably retained in one of said at least one emitter retainer; and
a device for removably retaining said emitter cartridge in said emitter retainer.

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2. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 1, further comprising:

a high voltage generation circuit is connected to said at least one emitter cartridge.

3. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 2, further comprising:

a voltage supply is connected to said high voltage generation circuit, said voltage supply provides electrical power to said high voltage generation circuit.

4. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 1 wherein:

said anode element includes a contact clip extending from an end thereof, said cathode element includes a contact tab extending from an end thereof.

5. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 1, further comprising:

said emitter cartridge is retained in a tube.

6. An ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge comprising:

at least one emitter cartridge includes an anode element, a cathode element and an insulating spacer, said anode element includes a plurality of emitter projections;

a base portion includes at least one emitter retainer, one of said at least one emitter retainer includes a first emitter post and a second emitter post, a first end of said emitter cartridge is retained in said first emitter post, a second end of said emitter cartridge is retained in said second emitter post; and

a device for removably retaining said emitter cartridge in said emitter retainer.

7. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 6 wherein:

said insulating spacer includes a first retention projection extending from a first end thereof and a second retention projection extending from a second end thereof.

8. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 7 wherein:

said first emitter post includes a first inward facing slot, said second emitter post includes a second inward facing slot, wherein said first and second inward facing slots are sized to receive said first and second retention projections.

9. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 8 wherein:

said anode element includes a contact clip extending from an end thereof, said cathode element includes a contact tab extending from an end thereof.

10. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 9 wherein:

an anode electrical contact is retained adjacent said first inward facing slot, a cathode electrical contact is retained adjacent said second inward facing slot, wherein said contact clip makes electrical contact with said anode electrical contact, said contact tab make electrical contact with said cathode electrical contact.

11. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 6, further comprising:

a high voltage generation circuit is connected to said at least one emitter cartridge.

12. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim 11, further comprising:

a voltage supply is connected to said high voltage generation circuit, said voltage supply provides electrical power to said high voltage generation circuit.

13. An ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge comprising:

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at least one emitter cartridge includes an anode element, a cathode element and an insulating spacer, said anode element includes a plurality of emitter projections, said cathode element includes a plurality of openings, wherein electrical current flows from said plurality of emitter projections to said plurality of openings;

a base portion includes at least one emitter retainer, one of said at least one emitter retainer includes a first emitter post and a second emitter post, a first end of said emitter cartridge is retained in said first emitter post, a second end of said emitter cartridge is retained in said second emitter post; and

a device for removably retaining said emitter cartridge in said emitter retainer.

14. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim **13** wherein:

said insulating spacer includes a first retention projection extending from a first end thereof and a second retention projection extending from a second end thereof.

15. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim **14** wherein:

said first emitter post includes a first inward facing slot, said second emitter post includes a second inward facing slot, wherein said first and second inward facing slots are sized to receive said first and second retention projections.

16. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim **15** wherein:

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said anode element includes a contact clip extending from an end thereof, said cathode element includes a contact tab extending from an end thereof.

17. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim **16** wherein:

an anode electrical contact is retained adjacent said first inward facing slot, a cathode electrical contact is retained adjacent said second inward facing slot, wherein said contact clip makes electrical contact with said anode electrical contact, said contact tab make electrical contact with said cathode electrical contact.

18. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim **13**, further comprising:

a high voltage generation circuit is connected to said at least one emitter cartridge.

19. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim **18**, further comprising:

a voltage supply is connected to said high voltage generation circuit, said voltage supply provides electrical power to said high voltage generation circuit.

20. The ozone generator with a disposable emitter cartridge of claim **13**, further comprising:

a protective housing includes said base portion, an emitter housing and at least one vent cap, said emitter housing includes at least one emitter tube, said emitter tube is sized to receive said vent cap.

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